

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-29 (canceled).

30 (original). A front-end system for a communication station wherein the front-end system handles both reception signals collected via an antenna and transmission signals generated by the communication station for transmission via the antenna, comprising:

a cryostat;

a receive path carrying the reception signals and disposed in the cryostat;

a transmit path carrying the transmission signals;

a first coupler that couples the receive path and the transmit path to the antenna and includes a phase-adjusting portion such that the transmission signals are not carried by the receive path;

a cable for carrying the reception signals and the transmission signals to and from the communication station, respectively; and

a second coupler that couples the receive path and the transmit path to the cable and includes a phase-adjusting portion such that the transmission signals are not carried by the receive path.

31 (original). The front-end system of claim 30 further comprising a cryostat wherein the receive path comprises a bandpass filter disposed in the cryostat.

32 (original). The front-end system of claim 31 wherein the phase-adjusting portion of the coupler is disposed in the cryostat.

33 (original). The front-end system of claim 31 wherein the bandpass filter comprises means for protecting the bandpass filter from the transmission signals carried by the transmit path.

34 (original). The front-end system of claim 31 wherein the bandpass filter comprises a first stage modified to protect the bandpass filter from the transmission signals carried by the transmit path.

35 (original). The front-end system of claim 31 wherein the coupler comprises a further phase-adjusting portion disposed outside of the cryostat.

36 (original). The front-end system of claim 31 wherein phase-adjustment via the coupler is provided solely by the phase-adjusting portion in the cryostat.

37 (original). The front-end system of claim 30 wherein the antenna is disposed upon and supported by an antenna tower having a length such that the cable runs the length of the antenna tower to couple the front-end system to the communication station.

38 (currently amended). A front-end system for a communication station wherein the front-end system handles both reception signals collected via an antenna and transmission signals generated by the communication station for transmission via the antenna, comprising:

a cryostat;

a receive path carrying the reception signals and disposed in the cryostat;

a transmit path carrying the transmission signals;

a first cable coupled to both the receive path and the transmit path that carries both the transmission signals and the reception signals to and from the antenna, respectively; ~~and~~

a second cable coupled via a duplexer to both the receive path and the transmit path that carries both the reception signals and the transmission signals to and from the communication station, respectively, and

a first coupler that couples the first cable to the receive path and includes a phase-adjusting portion such that the transmission signals are not carried by the receive path; and

a second coupler that couples the second cable to the receive path and includes a phase-adjusting portion such that the transmission signals are not carried by the receive path.

39 (original). The front-end system of claim 38 wherein the antenna is disposed upon and supported by an antenna tower having a length such that the second cable runs the length of the antenna tower to couple the receive path and the transmit path to the communication station.

40 (canceled).

41 (previously presented). The front-end system of claim 38 further comprising a coupler that couples the first cable to the receive path and includes a phase-adjusting portion such that the transmission signals are not carried by the receive path.

42 (original). The front-end system of claim 38 wherein the receive path comprises a bandpass filter disposed in the cryostat.

43 (original). The front-end system of claim 42 wherein the bandpass filter comprises means for protecting the bandpass filter from the transmission signals carried by the transmit path.

44 (original). The front-end system of claim 42 wherein the bandpass filter comprises a first stage modified to protect the bandpass filter from the transmission signals carried by the transmit path.

45 (original). The front-end system of claim 42 wherein the coupler comprises a further phase-adjusting portion disposed outside of the cryostat.

46 (original). The front-end system of claim 42 wherein phase-adjustment via the coupler is provided solely by the phase-adjusting portion in the cryostat.

47-60 (canceled).